

Appl. No. 09/774,188
Reply to OA of October 5, 2005
Amendment dated: June 6, 2006

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application

Claims 1 - 35 (Cancelled).

36(New). A carbohydrate mixture for dietetic food products and pharmaceuticals containing several carbohydrates, wherein the mixture contains two different, substantially soluble carbohydrate components A and B, which remain undigested in the gastrointestinal tract and enter the large intestine without being resorbed,

carbohydrate component A consists of at least one monosaccharide or of at least one oligosaccharide of up to six monosaccharide units, or of a mixture of two or of more of these saccharides,

carbohydrate component B consists of one polysaccharide or of a mixture of two or of more polysaccharides containing at least seven monosaccharides up to a maximum of 100 monosaccharide units,

the carbohydrates/saccharides of component A have a different structure than the carbohydrates/saccharides of component B,

carbohydrate component A is present in an amount of from 5 to 95 weight percent and carbohydrate component B is present in an amount of from 5 to 95 weight percent of the sum of the carbohydrate components A + B,

at least 80 weight percent of the carbohydrates / saccharides of the carbohydrate component A have a prebiotic effect and at least 80 weight percent of the carbohydrates / saccharides of the carbohydrate component B have a prebiotic effect, and whereby said carbohydrate mixture may contain one or more additional carbohydrates which do not belong to the carbohydrates / saccharides of component A or component B and which can be used for preparing dietetic food products and pharmaceuticals.

37(New). A carbohydrate mixture according to claim 36, characterized in that either at least 80 weight percent of the carbohydrates/saccharides of the carbohydrate components A and B promote lactic acid bacteria and are bifidogenic or at least 80 weight percent of the carbohydrates/saccharides of the carbohydrate components A and B promote lactic acid bacteria or are bifidogenic.

38(New). A carbohydrate mixture according to claim 36, characterized in that the weight percent of the carbohydrate component A is higher than the weight percent of the carbohydrate component B.

39(New). A carbohydrate mixture according to claim 38, characterized in that the carbohydrate component A comprises 95 to 60 weight percent and the carbohydrate component B comprises 5 to 40 weight percent, with $A + B = 100$ weight percent.

40(New). A carbohydrate mixture according to claim 38, characterized in that the carbohydrate component A comprises about 90 weight percent and the carbohydrate component B comprises about 10 weight percent.

41(New). A carbohydrate mixture according to claim 36, characterized in that either the carbohydrates / saccharides of the carbohydrate components A and B do not have any glucose units linked at the α 1-4 and α 1-6 position or the carbohydrates / saccharides of the carbohydrate components A and B do not have any glucose units linked at the α 1-4 or α 1-6 position.

42(New). A carbohydrate mixture according to claim 38, characterized in that either the carbohydrates / saccharides of the carbohydrate components A and B do not have any glucose units linked at the α 1-4 and α 1-6

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position or the carbohydrates / saccharides of the carbohydrate components A and B do not have any glucose units linked at the α 1-4 or α 1-6 position.

43(New). A carbohydrate mixture according to claim 36, characterized in that the carbohydrates/saccharides of the carbohydrate component A are selected from the group consisting of galacto-oligosaccharides, galacturon acid oligosaccharides, fructo-oligosaccharides, gluco-oligosaccharides, fuco-oligosaccharides and transgalacto-oligosaccharide and the carbohydrates / saccharides of the carbohydrate component B are selected from the group consisting of fructo-polysaccharides, inulin, xylose-polysaccharides, cellulose polysaccharides and arabinans

44(New). A carbohydrate mixture according to claim 36, characterized in that at least 60 weight percent and in particular 80 to 100 weight percent of the carbohydrates / saccharides of the carbohydrate component A belong to the galacto-oligosaccharide group and at least 60 weight percent and in particular 80 to 100 weight percent of the carbohydrates / saccharides of the carbohydrate component B belong to the fructo-polysaccharide group.

45(New). A carbohydrate mixture according to claim 36, characterized in that the additional carbohydrate is selected from the group consisting of an insoluble carbohydrate and a soluble and digestible carbohydrate or a mixture of one or more of these carbohydrates.

46(New). A dietetical or pharmaceutical composition containing a carbohydrate mixture according to claim 36 whereby said dietetical or pharmaceutical composition containing said carbohydrate mixture either

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promotes the growth of flora of the large intestine and promotes the growth of lactic acid bacteria or promotes the growth of flora of the large intestine or promotes the growth of lactic acid bacteria.

47(New). The composition of claim 46, characterized in that it is formulated as an infant formula.

48(New). The composition of claim 44, which includes a combination of GOS (galacto-oligosaccharides) and FOS (fructo-oligosaccharides).